

the words : "Here comes the bear to be baited/"
 The royal
 favour took welcome shape in a pension of
 £100, though it
 was not always fully or punctually paid. "After
 the King's
 return," records Clarendon in disgust, " he
 came frequently
 to the Court, where he had too many disciples,
 and he once
 visited me." The omnipotent Minister could not
 forgive him
 his absolutism and his scepticism, but men of
 less austerity
 enjoyed the company of one who, in Aubrey's
 words, was
 " marvellous happy and ready in his replies." If
 Clarendon
 was an open enemy, Arlington was a powerful
 friend. A
 small volume entitled *Seven Pbihsot* • • - - • •
for Himself and His Writings, published in 1662,
 and discussing
 gravity, the tides, heat, wind, &c, was dedicated
 to the King.
 The Preface declared Charles n to be
 "acquainted with all
 the experiments of the time, and whose
 approbation will
 protect my reasoning from the contempt of my
 adversaries."
 The Bishop of Durham, he added, who had
 visited him at
 St. Germain when he was ill, could testify to his
 religion.
 The honeymoon phase of the Restoration was
 soon over,
 and with the flowing tide of clerical reaction
 his position
 became insecure for the third time. Every good
 Royalist was
 expected to be an ardent Anglican and an
 enemy of the
 Nonconformists. When the Plague and the Great
 Fire rattled
 the nerves of the public, a Bill was passed to
 collect informa-
 tion on books rekting to atheism and
 profaneness, in particular
 a book by White, a Catholic priest, and
leviathan. It was
 referred to a Select Committee of the Lords,
 but no action
 was taken. The old man was thoroughly scared,
 and, accord-
 ing to Aubrey, burned some of his papers. He
 studied the
 state of the law relating -to heresy, and argued
 in a lengthy
 dissertation, published after his death, that

since the abolition
 of the High Commission there was no court by
 which he
 could be tried. Arlington kept his enemies at
 bay, and the
 King could always be relied on in case of need,
 though he
 uttered a friendly warning not to provoke
 further strife. His
 fears led to ^modifications in 'the Latin edition
 of "*Leviathan*,
 published in 1668. How he was hated in
 Royalist and High
 Church Oxford appeared when the celebrated
 Dr. Fell, Dean
 of Christ Church, denounced him as "irritabile
 illud et
 vanissimum Malmesburiense animal/"
 In his vigorous old age Hobbes translated
 Homer into verse,
 and wrote his kst important book, *Behmttth, or*
a Dialogs on
the Civil Wars. The Dedication to Arlington
 announces its